

EASTHAM 400 COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (VIRTUAL via ZOOM)

September 28, 2020

Attendees: Jim Russo, Tom Ryan, Janine Orsenigo, Peter Dibble, Sharon Krause, Deb Dejonker-Berry

Also Present: Eileen Seaboldt, Patty Donohoe, Robin Rowe, Jamie Dimitri, Mary Shaw
Mike Caliri facilitated audio/video connection for the Town

Chair's Report: Jim and Jamie have been discussing the Native people's access to beaches, ponds and runs. The Committee would like to ensure their access to all locations without a fee. In some locations, the signage states "No Shellfishing" and police are called in to defend the rights of the natives.

Secretary's Report: Tom offered the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Peter seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report: Deb reported that the balance in the Appropriations is \$2,088 - all commitments have been paid for (expenditures \$32,912). This does not include the results of Saturday's Town Meeting-FY21 ATM Article 11 (\$10,000 - subject to Board of Selectmen approval)

Balance in Gift Fund \$14,693 (\$16,818 in revenue and \$2,125 expenditures, primarily for tee shirts). We have made a commitment to purchase 400 additional shallop ornaments from ChemArt) (400 Shallop Ornaments @ \$11.35 each (total \$4,540)

Programming: Jim, Deb, Tom, and Willow Shire have been investigating the 3 plaques in Eastham commemorating the "First Encounter." – 2 at First Encounter Beach. on opposite sides of the parking lot (the 1922 one , is on the dune / hill at the north side); and 1 outside town hall. Bill Burke of the CCNS conducted a workshop last fall and the participants discussed the what/how/where to deal with these sites.

We will propose that the 2 at First Encounter Beach remain as is, each (1922 and 2001) reflecting their times' interpretation of the 1620 event. We will propose that the 1 at town hall be changed. It will express current hopes at the 400th anniversary, and not try to interpret the historical event. John Hanlon will confer with tribal leaders about their views of the proposed text. The plaque from outside town hall will be preserved in a display at the town hall or the library, ie, where the public has ready access. A proposal will be written up for SB approval. Deb spoke to the idea for a display to acknowledge the historical perspectives that need preservation but in the end, citing a focus on the future.

Jim talked about the making of a 40-45 minute video as a "capsule of all of the events from the past year". He approached two venue operators, Wellfleet Drive-In and Payomet Theater about the possibility of holding a viewing for all interested. Neither turned out to be an option. He is hoping that indoor viewing will be an option by December when it can be shown. Joanna Holleck is back from school and has sent a proposal to Tom, for a collage of the Sunset and Campfire series to be included in the movie. Several moving parts hopefully will come together for the events of December 8; movie, plaque unveiling, Tribal Dancers and Drummers.

Sylvia is still working on the P.O. cancellation stamp, hopefully done by December 8. Tom recommended the Mayflower 400 stamp, which also depicts the shallop beside the ship.

Procurement:

Previously discussed memorial plaque. Deb is getting estimates. It is in the discussion phase at the moment.

Fundraising:

The Three Sisters has new supplies of T-shirts and ornaments and the Information booth has a good supply as well. Janine will approach the Superette about the shirt sales. Peter read an email that was sent to Mike at Cape Associates:

"Good Morning Mike,

At today's Eastham 400 meeting a motion was made and passed to release the shallop playhouse to you for use as you see fit. I remember that you had mentioned donating it to the Pilgrim John Holland Society in Plymouth and I think that would be a good destination for it.

Mike, Covid 19 did not allow it's timely completion, nor did it allow us an opportunity to display it in parades, on the green during Windmill Weekend or during any other outside festivities for potential raffle opportunities.

The committee wishes to thank you for your time and effort in trying to make this project a success. We know how hard you and your crew worked for its completion.

Sincerely,

Peter and Janine"

Partners:

Tom reported that the Sunrise Service on December 8th at 7 a.m. rain, snow or shine is being organized by Nauset Interfaith. A Sunset ceremony will be held at Indian Rock on Skiff Hill, pending CCNS permission. Wampanoag Nation Drummers will lead the lament.

Eastham Public Library:

"Our Story": 400 Years of Wampanoag History in December. By reservation or timed ticketing only, TBD.

Speaker series with Ian Saxine and David Silverman. Deb is working on the idea of coordinating the speakers with the Indigenous History Conference sponsored by Bridgewater State starting on October 3rd and running on Sundays through November 22nd.

Robert Peters, writer, poet and artist - talk or workshop and maybe a role in December 8 events.

The Cape and Islands Historical Association is hosting an online symposium on October 17 from 9 am to 3:30 pm., with many locals presenting papers.

The State 400 Commemorative Committee has published the Massachusetts Chronicles which is being distributed to all of the schools. The Eastham Library has copies available.

Cape Cod Nat'l Seashore:

In Sue's absence, Jim reported that all outside programs/exhibits at Pilgrim Heights and Skiff Hill are continuing as planned.

Eastham Historical Society:

Eileen reported that a few presentations are still to come. Programming that has been planned and not presented will be reworked and will take place over the next year, e.g. a talk about the beams from the First Meeting House. Tom commended Patty and her granddaughter on their presentation of their ancestors this past summer.

Eastham Painters Guild:

No report

Nauset Regional Schools:

No report

In closing, Jim encouraged everyone to continue sending in events, photos, calendar info, blog postings, etc for the website.

A motion was made by Tom, seconded by Peter and the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 am.

The next meeting will be on October 26th at 10:30 am via Zoom unless otherwise posted.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Krause, Secretary